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Sent: 10/15/2018 12:35:44 PM

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Subject: Oct. 15 -- EHS Federal Regulatory Alert





EHS Federal Regulatory Alert

October 15, 2018 - Number 199

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Headlines Matching Your Selections

AIR

Oil and Natural Gas Sector NSPS

AIR

Proposed rule of the EPA would revise the NSPS for the oil and natural gas sector in response to petitions for reconsideration of a June 3, 2016, final rule (81 FR 35824) that established limits on methane and VOC emission from affected sources. The rule would revise fugitive emissions monitoring frequencies, allow monitoring to stop when all major production and processing equipment is removed from a well site, and add separate initial monitoring requirements for compressor stations on the Alaska North Slope. The rule also would clarify when a modification has occurred at a well site that is a separate tank battery, remove the existing low-temperature waiver for compressor stations, and modify the schedule for repairs. In addition, the rule would remove the categorical distinction between greenfield sites and nongreenfield sites for the pneumatic pump requirements, revise requirements for closed vent systems to allow certification by a professional engineer or an in-house engineer with relevant expertise, and update the alternative means of emission limitation provisions to add emerging technologies and address existing state programs. In addition, the rule would clarify

that a separator may be located at the well site or near the well site to commence separation flowback, clarify that screenouts and coil tubing cleanouts are not a part of flowback, and revise the calculation of the maximum average daily throughput calculation. Finally, the rule would add an exemption from monitoring requirements for certain equipment use by onshore natural gas processing plants, update recordkeeping and reporting requirements, and revise definitions. A hearing will be announced in a separate notice. Comments are due Dec. 17, 2018. Contact: Karen Marsh; EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards; 919-541-1065; marsh.karen@epa.gov. Citations: 40 CFR 60, Subpart OOOOa

83 FR 52056 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

GENERAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

Minnesota/Northern Lights 2019 Expansion Project and Rochester Project
GENERAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

Notice of FERC the environmental review schedule for the Northern Lights 2019 Expansion Project and the Rochester Project in various counties in Minnesota. The applicant, Northern Natural Gas Co., of Omaha, Neb., seeks authorization for construction and operation of certain compressor, pipeline, and town border station facilities; upgrades to the maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) on a segment of an existing branch line and relocation of a MAOP regulator; and abandonment of short segments of pipeline to accommodate tie-ins. The applicant also seeks approval for rolled-in rate treatment for the projects. Combined, the projects would provide approximately 138,504 dekatherms per day of upstream firm natural gas transportation service. The issuance of the environmental assessment is scheduled for Nov. 18, 2018, and the 90-day federal authorization decision deadline is Feb. 19, 2019. Contact: FERC; 866-208-3676; FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov

83 FR 51937 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

GENERAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY
Pennsylvania/Swarts Complex Wells Abandonment
GENERAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

Notice of FERC announces the filing of a request by Equitrans LP, of Pittsburgh, for authorization to abandon by sale a series of 18 injection/withdrawal wells in the Swarts

Complex in Greene County, Pa. The applicant also requests authorization to abandon the associated well lines in place and to abandon any associated appurtenant facilities. The wells are within the area that an incumbent coal mining company has designated for expansion of its mining operations beginning in December 2018. FERC will complete an environmental analysis or issue a notice of schedule for environmental review by Jan. 3, 2019. Comments, protests, and motions to intervene are due Oct. 26, 2018. Contact: FERC, Office of External Affairs; 866-208-3676; FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov

83 FR 51938 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

Alaska LNG Project Technical Conference
OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

Notice of FERC announces a technical conference to provide an opportunity for commission staff and representatives from Alaska Gasline Development Corp., of Anchorage, Alaska, to discuss clarifications on the commission's Oct. 2, 2018, environmental data request for the Alaska LNG Project. The project involves construction and operation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities on Alaska's North Slope. The conference is scheduled for Oct. 18, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Contact: James Martin; FERC; 202-502-8045; james.martin@ferc.gov

83 FR 51938 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY
Alaska/Pipeline Safety Special Permit Request for Liberty Pipeline
OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

Notice of PHMSA announces the receipt of a request for a special permit from Hilcorp Alaska LLC, of Anchorage, for a waiver from federal pipeline safety requirements for hazardous liquid pipeline operators to have cathodic protection and to monitor external corrosion control, in connection with the proposed Liberty Pipeline project. The special permit request is for 5.7 miles of offshore carrier pipeline to begin on the Liberty Drilling and Production Island in Foggy Island Bay of the Beaufort Sea Outer Continental Shelf and Alaska waters. The proposed 7.2-mile Liberty Pipeline would transport crude oil to and through the Badami and Endicott pipelines, then to the Trans Alaska Pipeline System, and on to a terminal in Valdez, Alaska. PHMSA proposes that Hilcorp conduct

alternative integrity measures by implementing proposed special permit conditions. A draft environmental assessment also is available. Comments are due Nov. 14, 2018. Contact: Joshua Johnson; PHMSA; 816-329-3825; joshua.johnson@dot.gov. Citations: 49 CFR 195.563, 195.573

83 FR 52050 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

WATER

Susquehanna River Basin Commission/Projects Approved for Consumptive Uses of Water

WATER

Notice of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission announces a list of projects approved for consumptive uses of water in August 2018. The notice lists 13 project approvals for consumptive use, including uses related to unconventional natural gas and other hydrocarbon development. Contact: Jason Oyler; SRBC; 717-238-0423; joyler@srbc.net. Citations: 18 CFR 806.22

83 FR 52047 (10/15/2018)

Regulatory Update

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